EPA Reports On Arkwood Water Tests

The federal Environmental Protection Agency has announced that pentachlorophenol (PCP), a substance which has caused cancer in laboratory animals, continued to be found in Cricket Spring during April tests, but said none was found in any drinking water source around the closed Arkwood wood treating site near Omaha.

Test samples are being taken again this month, the EPA said.

In addition to the 2.9 parts per million of PCP in Cricket Spring, the EPA said said original tests of samples from two wells showed other chemical contaminants, but none was found in retesting and the first tests apparently were wrong.

Arkwood is one of 10 Arkansas sites being handled under federal Superfund provisions for the nation's most hazardous sites.

The current samples are part of a study being paid for by Mass Merchandisers, Inc., of Harrison, which used the property at one time. That study will include recommendations for clean-up of the site, but no determination has been made of who will pay for the clean-up.